The Report from the Commiſſioners of Her Majeſtys Cuſtoms, Dated the 19th of Auguſt, 1710. *to the Lords Commiſſioners of Her Majeſtys Treaſury, relating to the high Duties on Prize Goods in* America.

May it pleaſe your Lordſhips,

IN Obedience to the Commands of the Right Honourable the late Lord High Treaſurer of *Great Britain*, ſignified to us by Mr. *Lownds*'s Letter of the Fourth Inſtant, tranſmitting to us the incloſed Order of Her Majeſty in Council, referring to his Petition of ſeveral Merchants, Traders and Inhabitants of *Jamaica*, concerning the high duties laid upon Prize Goods in that Iſland, and of the ſevere Collecting of the ſame there; his Lordſhip directing us to conſider, and to report to his Lordſhip our Opinion, what we thought fit for Her Majeſty to do therein.

In our Report of the 9th of *May* laſt, before the late Lord High Treaſurer, the Steps we had taken to put the Act of Parliament (which laid the Duties complain'd of,) in execution in the Plantations, wherein we have done no more than our Duty obliged us to, in purſuance to the ſaid Act, and his Lordſhip's Directions thereon, but in conſideration of the Hardſhips repreſented in the ſaid Petition, which we believe in great Meaſure to be true; *Viz.* That theſe Duties generally exceed the Value of the Goods, and where they do not, the Profits after Deductions were ſo ſmall, that the Privateers always made looſing Voyages; by Means whereof, they were reduced from Twenty five to Two Sail that the Seamen deſerted the *Iſland* for want of Subſiſtance, and Nine Hundred of them were gone to ſettle at the *Sambalos*, which would prove a great Prejudice to the Trade, and that if the Bonds, taken for theſe Duties ſhould be proſecuted, it would ruin many Families there, who are already very low; we think if Security could be taken, to anſwer the Duties 'till the Perſons concerned ſhall have an Oppertunity of applying to Parliament, it would very much conduce to the Encouragement of Captors, the Benefit of the Trade, and Security of that *Iſland*.

Cuſtom-Houſe London,
Aug. 10*th* 1710.

T. Newport. *M. Dudley.*
W. Culliford. *J. Shute.*

This Report hath been agreed to, by the Right Honourable the Lords Commiſſioners of Her Majeſtys Treaſury, with Directions to Mr. *Lowndes*, to acquaint the Commitee therewith, and to conſent to the Bill for their Relief.

AND THEREFORE, it is humbly hoped, the Bonds ſhall be diſcharged that the Privateers and other Inhabitants, may be encouraged to return and prevent the Ruin of that beneficial Colony, without which it is to be feared, the ſaid Iſland *will not be able long to ſubſiſt, or defend themſelves againſt the encreaſing Power of their Enemies.*

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THE

CASE

Of the Iſland *of* Jamaica, *in Relation to their Privateers,*

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